GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:627
ANSWERED ON:18.11.2016
Health Sector in India
Puttaraju Shri C.S.;Reddy Shri Midhun

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made new policies and significant public commitment and financial commitment to the health sector across the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government is aware that India"s healthcare infrastructure is inadequate to serve its vast population and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether lack of awareness about diseases and monitoring is posing great challenge for the Government and if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by the Government to meet the country"s needs in health sector?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)
(a): The Government of India formulated and placed in public domain the draft of National Health Policy 2015 in the light of the changes that have taken place in the country's health sector scenario since the formulation of the National Health Policy 2002. The draft National Health Policy 2015 envisages raising public health expenditure progressively to 2.5% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).
The focus of the Government is to provide accessible, affordable and accountable healthcare facilities to all sections of the society in the country. Government of India accordingly provides financial assistance for supplementing the efforts of States/UTs Governments in this direction.

(b): The draft National Health Policy 2015 has laid emphasis on strengthening of healthcare infrastructure. Health being a State subject, the primary responsibility for developing and upgrading adequate healthcare infrastructure rests with the State/UT Governments. However, under National Health Mission (NHM), Government of India provides financial support to States under Project Implementation Plan (PIP) to strengthen the public health system including upgradation of existing infrastructure or construction of new infrastructure.

The Government has also launched Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) with the objectives of correcting regional imbalances in the availability of affordable/ reliable tertiary healthcare services and augmenting facilities for quality medical education in the country for enhancing availability of human resources in health sector.

(c): The Government is aware of challenges posed by emerging diseases and is monitoring the spread of such diseases.
In order to provide affordable health care services to the people of the country and to generate awareness about the diseases, the Government has taken several steps which inter-alia include:

â€¢ Initiatives under the National Health Mission (NHM) for providing free of cost health care in the public health facilities through a nationwide network of Community Health Centres (CHCs), Primary Health Centres (PHCs) and Sub Centres (SCs) in both rural and urban areas. Various programs such as National AYUSH Mission, Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakram, Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram, National Deworming day, Weekly Iron Folic Acid supplementation program, Menstrual Hygiene Program, Mission Indradhanush, Kayakalp Abhiyan, Free Drugs and Diagnostic Initiative, Free care for family welfare services, Janani Shishu Suraksha Karyakaram (JSSK), free medicines under the various national health programmes like Anti-Malaria and Anti-TB Programmes seek to strengthen various health components.

â€¢ Emergency Medical Relief is also provided to mitigate the impact of Influenza A H1N1, Avian Flu and other emerging diseases.

â€¢ Fund is also provided for setting up Institutional Mechanism for Emergency Medical Services at National/States/Districts level.

â€¢ Regular Awareness campaigns for Immunizations, seasonal outbreaks etc., has been undertaken through Information Education Communication (IEC).